

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

## UNITED NATIONS

DISARMAMENT—ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION  
BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

whether he has given an indication to the agricultural meetings that have been taking place in Ottawa that a change in the government's policy relating to butter subsidies is under consideration or is likely.

**Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, it is a well known fact that at the federal-provincial ministers' meetings, which lasted over three days, we discussed many matters, some in public and some in private. So far as the public discussions are concerned, they have already been reported in the press, and so far as the private discussions are concerned, they will remain private for a little while longer.

## CORPORATIONS AND LABOUR UNIONS

INQUIRY AS TO PROCLAMATION OF ACT  
RESPECTING RETURNS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Thomas R. Berger (Vancouver-Burrard):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Labour. Can the minister tell the house whether it is the intention of the government in the near future to proclaim the Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act?

**Hon. Michael Starr (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, this comes directly under the Minister of Transport, and I think it should be answered by him.

**Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport):** I wonder if the hon. member would mind repeating his question.

**Mr. Berger:** Not at all, Mr. Speaker. Is it the government's intention in the near future to proclaim the Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act?

**Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, the answer is, at the end of the year.

[Later:]

**Mr. Thomas R. Berger (Vancouver-Burrard):** In view of the policy of the Minister of Trade and Commerce in connection with the answer he gave a few minutes ago, can the minister assure the house that an opportunity will be given to any parties affected by the Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act to make representations to the ministry before any regulations are passed under the powers given by that act?

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Speaker, the minister is always willing and glad to receive information and deputations from any group whatsoever in the country.

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Is he in a position to give the house any report with respect to the excellent work being done by our representatives at the United Nations in connection with proposals for disarmament?

**Hon. Howard C. Green (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I am glad to be able to inform the house that the resolution on the resumption of disarmament negotiations was adopted in a plenary session of the general assembly yesterday by a vote of 84 in favour, with none against and only one abstention. The terms of this resolution fully reflect the Canadian views. It reaffirms the need to reach agreement "at the earliest possible date" on general disarmament with effective controls, and it calls on the 18 nation disarmament committee, which is meeting on Monday next, to resume negotiations "in a spirit of constructive compromise". This, of course, is in line with the Canadian emphasis on common elements in the views of the two sides and on the necessity of a further effort to achieve acceptable compromises.

In addition, the resolution recommends that urgent attention be given "to various collateral measures intended to decrease tension and to facilitate general and complete disarmament". Canada has taken the initiative from the outset of the disarmament conference in stressing the importance of early action on collateral measures. The significance of such measures has been underlined by the recent events in Cuba, and I hope that agreement on this can be achieved without delay.

This resolution was adopted yesterday and together with the resolution on the banning of nuclear tests which was passed ten days or so ago, gives the 18 nation committee about as much backing as could have been expected from the general assembly. General Burns, the head of the Canadian delegation to the disarmament committee, is leaving for Geneva today. We hope that good results will be achieved. It might help the house if these two resolutions could be printed as an appendix to *Hansard* today. That would give the house a complete picture of these resolutions.